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CCP CONTROLS BUMPER WHEAT CROP PRICES;  
PROMOTE MECHANIZED FARMING

CORPORATION SUPPORTS BUMPER WHEAT CROP PRICES -- Nanking Hsin-hua Jih-pao,  
 22 Jul 50

Peiping, 20 July (Hsin-hua) -- With the bumper wheat crop produced through-  
 out the wheat-growing areas of China and the reduction in summer grain tax, the  
 farmers have a large surplus to market. The China Foodstuffs Corporation, antic-  
 ipating that the farmers would be desirous of exchanging some of their wheat for  
 coarser grains, has secured and shipped in from the Northeast 387 million catties  
 of corn, kaoliang, and bean cake, and is prepared to offer these in exchange for  
 one-half the wheat offerings of the farmers. The corporation will pay for the  
 other half in cash to promote the circulation of people's notes in the rural areas.

Since the wheat likely to be offered will be more than the government itself  
 can use, cooperatives and private grain buyers are being organized under the leader-  
 ship of the local bureaus of industry and commerce to purchase wheat under well or-  
 ganized plans so as to prevent a sudden drop in prices. At the same time, the govern-  
 ment trade corporations and consumer cooperatives are stockpiling hundreds of billions  
 of yuan worth of cloth, coal, salt, soap, matches, and other necessities to supply  
 to the people at stabilized prices to prevent gouging of peasants that formerly  
 occurred by the drop in grain prices when the crop suddenly came on the market,  
 and the rise in prices on consumer's goods resulting from the peasant demand af-  
 ter the sale of their grain.

Except for a few districts suffering from flood, drought, or insect pests in  
 East China, the wheat crop is good in the region. In Fukien, the crop is the best  
 in 20 years.

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PLAN 1950 FATS AND OILS OUTPUT -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 22 Jul 50

Peiping, 21 July (Hsin-hua) -- A nation-wide conference of the fats and oils industry, called by the Ministry of Food Industry of the Central People's government has set production estimates for the latter half of 1950. The session was held from 27 June-11 July and included more than 80 representatives of public and private plants in the industry from various areas.

The industry as a whole suffers from blocked marketing facilities and lack of ready capital; many plants have partially or completely ceased to operate. The average monthly production in Shanghai private oil plants between January and May 1950 was 9,000 market piculs; this is less than half the monthly average for 1949. The mechanized oil mills of East China can produce over 2 million piculs of oil a year, but the market takes care of only one million piculs. Only 11 percent of the hand-processed oil stores in Hopeh Province are able to maintain production, and only 80 percent of the mechanized plants can sustain a continuous output.

With a view to eliminating reckless production and to achieving a balance between output and market, the assembly adopted a plan calling for 64,000 tons of assorted oils and 236,350 tons of oil cake to be produced during the latter half of 1950. East China is to produce 40,190 tons of this oil and 152,000 tons of the oil cake; North China, 18,980 tons of oil and 55,170 tons of cake; Central and South China, 3,800 tons of oil and 16,850 tons of cake; Southwest China, 900 tons of oil and 1,800 tons of cake; Northwest China, 130 tons of oil and 530 tons of cake.

The state-operated China Fats and Oils Corporation is to provide some of the raw material, purchase some of the products, and farm out jobs to privately-operated fats and oils firms, to alleviate present market and supply difficulties in the industry. Government food agencies, local products corporations, and provisions corporations in various areas will cooperate in their plan of farming out work to the industry, with a profit tentatively fixed at 2 percent. The quality of the product will be held to export standards.

The assembly also resolved that a Central Fats and Oils Industry Bureau be established, under the Ministry of Food Industry, for centralized planning of nation-wide production in the industry; that Food Products Control Bureaus be set up within the industrial agencies of the various large administrative districts; and that fats and oils control units be created within the bureaus. Industrial agencies in the provinces are to establish such fats and oils control units as the provincial market demands, in order to direct production in national, public, and private industry throughout the nation.

PROMOTES LIBERATION TRADEMARK FARM MACHINERY IN SHANSI -- Taiyuan Shansi Jih-pao, 23 May 50.

In Ch'ang-chih Hsien, Shansi, the authorities are promoting actively the use of Liberation farm machinery. Demonstrations are being held to give the farmers a chance to see what the machinery will do, and it is evident that Shansi farmers appreciate the advantages of such machinery. In addition to 50 seven-inch walking plows, 43 cultivators, 80 single-nozzle sprayers, 24 twin-nozzle sprayers, and 24 dusters already been distributed to various hsien, contracts have been signed with the manufacturers for the purchase of 150 Liberation cultivators, 24 seed-selection machines, 25 corn shellers, 40 small-size seeders, and 21 fodder cutters. It is expected that these will arrive by mid-July.

Special and administrative district authorities, hsien cadres, and consumer cooperatives are all active in promoting the use of this new machinery.

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## ENCOURAGES FARM MACHINERY IN HEILUNGKIANG -- Mukden Tung-pei Jih-pao, 23 Jul 50

Eleven hundred Lien-ho type, 270 Fu-min type, and 20 K'o-nung type cultivators and weeders have been brought into K'o-shan Hsien in Heilungkiang for experimental introduction to the farmers. About 90 percent of them have been put into use.

It has been ascertained that the use of these implements can save  $8\frac{1}{2}$  man-days of labor on each 10 mou of land planted in corn, and 6 man-days of labor on land planted in millet, hemp, and kaoliang.

Unfortunately, many of the implements proved not very durable and many complaints and demands to be allowed to return them were received. The hsien authorities mobilized a force of 800 repairmen equipped with necessary tools and materials and sent them among the farms to make repairs. These failures, however, tended to increase the natural prejudice the farmers have against innovations. Another failing in introducing the new implements was to distribute them without proper instruction in their use. The result was, in many cases, damage to both crops and implements, which further militated against ready acceptance by the farmers.

## COTTON CROP PROMISING IN NORTHEAST -- Mukden Tung-pei Jih-pao, 19 Jul 50

In the two big cotton-producing provinces of the Northeast, Liaotung and Liaosi, the cotton has been hoed four times and the fifth hoeing is beginning in some areas. The serious threat of catastrophe through insect pests has been overcome by the strenuous efforts of the farmers directed by government; if there are no further calamities, the crop should be good. The plants are about a foot high and coming into bloom.

## NORTHEAST TO BUILD FOOD-STORAGE FACILITIES -- Mukden Tung-pei Jih-pao, 22 Jul 50

The Northeast Foodstuffs Corporation, in a meeting held on 10 July 1950, decided that in view of increasing agricultural production and resulting larger stores under the corporation's management, an increase in storage and transport facilities in 1951 will be necessary. According to plans drawn at the meeting, construction work will include 81 kilometers of special railroad lines; 750,000 square meters of storehouse space, which will accommodate 7,200,000 tons of foodstuff; 2,247,847 square meters of piling shed space for sacked grain; 98,672 square meters of round bin space; and 13,572 square meters of dormitories for workers. All work but that on storehouses, which is awaiting the approval of the Northeast People's government, has been approved by the Department of Trade.

The Foodstuffs Corporation has already made arrangements with the Import Corporation and other monopolies for the purchase of railroad track, fish-plates, railroad ties, cement, lime and other materials and will receive aid from technicians of the Chinese Changchun Railroad. Work will start at the end of July 1950.

## SUMMER HOEING PROGRESSING THROUGHOUT COUNTRY -- Canton Nang-fang Jih-pao, 23 Jul 50

Reports from the Northeast indicate that the summer hoeing program is in full swing, with the third hoeing finished and a fourth begun in some areas. The trend seems to be in the direction of more intensive cultivation, some even advocating five hoeings, whereas three has been the general custom in the past. Quick clearing of the fields of the remains of early crops and preparations for further plantings is also being stressed.

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On the 12 state-operated mechanized farms, measures have been taken to correct the errors of last year that resulted in lessened yields. In the 12 projects, 324,000 mou are under cultivation this year, an increase of 12 percent over original plans. Both machine- and animal-drawn cultivators have been in use. The third round of cultivation is now in progress on most of the farms.

Insect pest damage has been held to a minimum this year through the rapid and hearty cooperation of the whole populace in the area where pests have appeared.

Early crops in North China have been hoed two or three times and later crops one and two times. Ten million mou of cotton fields are receiving their fourth hoeing.

There has been a large increase in the number of women engaging in the hoeing work this summer, in some areas amounting to 90 percent of the available female labor force.

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Central government issued a directive on 15 July urging intensive efforts to hold in check all insect pests attacking the cotton crop. The pests mentioned were the boll weevil and the red spider, which were said to be seriously threatening the crop rather generally throughout the country.

In the Central and South China District, Hunan, Hupeh, Kiangsi and Kwangsi provinces have been visited by the boll weevil and cicada pests. The authorities have worked hard to enlist the peasants in extermination campaigns by giving a catty of grain for a gin of insects, recognition as "model exterminators," etc., as well as by propaganda to break down the peasant superstition that the cicada is divine. As many as 100,000 persons have been enrolled in one hsien in the extermination campaign.

CENTRAL-SOUTH CHINA GRAIN COLLECTION PROGRAM ALMOST COMPLETED -- Hong Kong  
Wen-hui Pao, 23 May 50

Hankow, 21 May (Hsin-hua) -- Eighty percent of the grain collection and distribution program in the Central and South China District has been completed. The amount of grain already handled under the program is 1,265,720,922 catties. Of this amount, 600,007,800 catties have been distributed to areas outside the Central and South China District. The total amount to be handled under the program is 1,480,000,000 catties.

The carrying out of the program is in the hands of the various state trade organizations.

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